What is claimed is:

1   1.   A user interface for a fare summary tool, the user
2   interface for display on a monitor, the user interface
3   comprising:
4   a fare evaluation result table that displays fare rule
5   summaries for fares in slices of an itinerary.

1   2.   The user interface of claim 1 wherein the table is
2   comprised of rows that represent fares and columns that represent
3   the rule summaries.

1   3.   The user interface of claim 2 wherein the columns also
2   represent fare price.

1   4.   The user interface of claim 2 wherein the columns also
2   represent fare combinality restrictions.

1   5.   The user interface of claim 1 wherein the table depicts
2   whether or not the categories pass, fail, or defer for each fare.

1   6.   The user interface of claim 1 wherein pass, fail, or
2   defer result are represented by unique visual indications.

1   7.   The user interface of claim 1 wherein the unique visual
2   indications are to render the results in different colors for
3   pass, fail, or defer.

1   8.   The user interface of claim 1 wherein the table depicts
2   whether the status of the summary.

1   9.   The user interface of claim 8 wherein the status of the

2   summary is whether the status is complete, likely complete,

3   partially complete, or missing information.

1   10.   The user interface of claim 9 wherein the status of the

2   summary is represented by a unique visual indication.

1   11.   The user interface of claim 10 wherein the unique

2   visual indication is a change in the typeface that is used to

3   depict the status information.

1   12.   The user interface of claim 1 further comprising a user

2   query region that enables a user to enter information for a set

3   of slices or trip segments.

1   13.   The user interface of claim 12 wherein the query

2   section include field to specify a set of origin cities, a set of

3   destination cities and a time window for departure or arrival for

4   each trip segment.

1   14.   The user interface of claim 12 further comprising

2   fields to enable a user to specify different parameters that

3   control which fares and which airlines are examined.

1   15.   A method for producing a concise summary of fare rules

2   and restrictions that the fare rules place on fares of interest

3   comprises:

4   parsing a set of query to provide at least one city

5   pair corresponding to an origin and a destination of a flight

6   slice;

7   retrieving fares and fare rules for each city pair over

8 a time period set in the query;

9   evaluating the retrieved fares against the retrieve

10 rules and returning a status corresponding to pass, fail defer;

11 and

12   producing a summary of the results of evaluating the

13 rules the summary indicating the status of the rules for each

14 category of rules; and

15   displaying the summary on a user output device.

1 16.   The method of claim 15 wherein producing for the

2 comprises determining whether the summary is complete, likely

3 complete, partially complete or whether the summary is missing

4 information.

1 17.   The method of claim 15 wherein producing further

2 comprises:

3   representing the summary in a table where rows of the

4 table represent fares and columns of the table represent rules or

5 categories.

1 18.   The method of claim 15 wherein producing further

2 comprises:

3   representing the summary in a table where rows of the

4 table represent fares and columns of the table represent rules or

5 categories; and

6   applying a color to cells of the table with the color

7 scheme signifying whether the cell corresponds to pass, fail, or

8 defer status.

1 19.   A computer program product residing on a computer

2 readable medium for producing a rule summary comprises

3   instructions for causing the computer to:

4   populate a summary table of evaluating fare rules and

5   fares with the summary table indicating the status of the rules

6   for each category of rules; and

7   render the summary on an output device.

1   20.   The computer program product of claim 19 wherein

2   instructions to populate comprise instructions to:

3   represent the summary in the table where rows of the

4   table represent fares, columns of the table represent rules or

5   categories.

1   21.   The computer program product of claim 19 wherein

2   instructions to populate comprise instructions to:

3   apply a color to cells of the table with the color

4   scheme signifying whether the cell corresponds to pass, fail, or

5   defer status.